country is wasted due to disease which destroys the flowering in the mango tress;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any research to save the mango fruit entirely;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government plan to spray pesticides with the help of helipcopters in mango producing areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) About 15-30 per cent mango production is being affected due to infestation of diseases like powdery mildew, blossom blight and attack of mango hopper during flowering period.

(b) and (c) Based on research work conducted at Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow and Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore, control measures have been recommended.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no such proposal to spray pesticides with the help of helicopters in mango producing areas.

Seeds from Government Stores

858. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would educate the farmers through mass media to buy seeds only from Government retail stores;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider insuring the crop if the seeds are bought from the Government retails stores; and

(c) if so, the details of compensation to be given to farmers in case of failure of yield?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

Compensation for agricultural loss due to flood and drought in Kerala

859. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Minister and other Ministers of Kerala have submitted representations for flood and drought relief on various occasions seeking compensation for agriculture loss;

(b) if so, the details thereof including relief sought, relief recommended by committees visited and granted during the last three years, year-wise, category-wise; and

(c) the details of loss of human life and farmers committing suicide due to natural calamity and financial difficulty, due to loss in agriculture and inability to pay back loan to financial institutions, as submitted by competent authority of Kerala during that period, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government of Kerala reported drought situation of varying magnitude during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04. No loss of life was, however, reported during the years, in wake of drought. For the drought of 2002-03, the State Government submitted one Memorandum and for the drought 2003-04, the State Government submitted two memoranda, for Central assistance and Inter-Ministerial Central Teams visited the State for on-the-spot assessment of the situation. Details regarding assistance sought, assistance approved, etc. for the droughts of 2002-03 and 2003-04 are indicated below: